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Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 2119 (2013) of 10 October 2013, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) until 15 October 2014, and requested that I report on its implementation semi-annually and not later than 45 days prior to its expiration. The present report covers major developments from the issuance of my report of 20 August 2013 to 10 March 2014 (S/2013/493) and outlines activities undertaken by the Mission in line with its mandate under Security Council resolutions 1542 (2004), 1608 (2005), 1702 (2006), 1743 (2007), 1780 (2007), 1840 (2008), 1892 (2009), 1908 (2010), 1927 (2010), 1944 (2010), 2012 (2011), 2070 (2012) and 2119 (2013).

II. Political and security update

Political situation

2. The early part of the reporting period was marked by heightened tensions and a lingering stalemate between the executive branch and Parliament. The promulgation of a new electoral law and the launch of a national dialogue process alleviated some of those tensions by creating a climate conducive to the holding of long-awaited elections and ensuring the continuity of Parliament.

3. On 9 September 2013, two weeks after submission by the Government, the Chamber of Deputies adopted a new electoral law which was a prerequisite to the holding of long-delayed local, municipal and partial senatorial elections. The draft law specified that the terms of the senators elected in 2009 would run to January 2015, thereby ensuring that Parliament would continue to operate throughout 2014 in spite of the electoral delays. The law was subsequently endorsed by the Senate on 2 October with a number of additional amendments, including a provision stipulating that the Electoral Council would be headed by a director designated by the Electoral Council rather than by the executive branch. That led to a stand-off between the executive and legislative branches, which was partly defused when President Michel Joseph Martelly agreed to convoke an extraordinary session of the Chamber of Deputies in the second half of November, through which the law could be reconciled.

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4. The perceived slowness of the political process and the continued delays in holding elections fuelled tensions not only between Parliament and the executive branch but also throughout the country, resulting in a series of political demonstrations. Those commenced in late September 2013 and peaked on 18 November when up to 20,000 anti-government protesters took to the streets of the capital and other major cities. In late September, the Senate adopted a report calling for the indictment of President Martelly. The report alleged that, despite denials to the contrary, the President and a number of ministers had attempted to pressure a judge investigating allegations of corruption among members of the First Family to drop his case. At the same time, the Senate also rejected the Government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2013/14. On 5 November, the Minister for Justice and Public Security, the Minister for the Interior and Territorial Communities and the Minister for Foreign Affairs narrowly survived no-confidence votes in the Senate.

5. Meanwhile, during September and October 2013, a number of political parties and civil society groups, including the Episcopal Conference of Haiti, consisting of a group of Catholic bishops, and the coalition Religions pour la paix issued public calls for constructive dialogue between the executive branch and Parliament. On 14 October, President Martelly and the Presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies met under the auspices of Religions pour la paix and agreed to launch a dialogue process. Shortly thereafter, President Martelly also accepted the offer of the Episcopal Conference to begin a series of meetings with a range of political actors to promote better dialogue.

6. On 11 November 2013, a number of opposition parties set preconditions for the resumption of dialogue, including the promulgation of the electoral law, the lifting of a controversial arrest warrant against opposition lawyer André Michel and the official appointment by the executive branch of the members of the Council of the Superior Court of Auditors and Administrative Disputes.

7. Finally, on 22 November 2013, an extraordinary session of the Chamber of Deputies was convoked by the President and, at the same time, the arrest warrant against Mr. Michel was lifted. The session's agenda included the version of the electoral law adopted by the Senate, which the President had initially opposed. Following adoption by the Chamber of Deputies, President Martelly promulgated the law on 10 December, which significantly de-escalated political tensions.

8. On 13 January 2014, Parliament held the opening of its first ordinary session of the 2014 legislative year. On that occasion, President Martelly as well as the President of the National Assembly repeated their calls for national unity and dialogue, seemingly setting the tone for a more collaborative relationship between the executive branch and Parliament. Three days later, the executive branch promulgated a law on the formation, functioning, and financing of political parties, another precondition set by the opposition.

9. On 24 January 2014, a national dialogue process between the executive branch, Parliament and political parties was launched and mediated by the Episcopal Conference, focusing on three areas of concern: democratic governance, elections and constitutional amendments. The launch was attended by President Martelly, parliamentary leaders, the representatives of a range of opposition and pro-government political parties and civil society observers. In his address, the President of the Episcopal Conference, Chibly Cardinal Langlois, stressed the importance of an "inter-Haitian" dialogue process that included the participation of all key national

stakeholders. On 3 February, representatives of the executive branch, Parliament and certain political parties reached a preliminary consensus on the holding of combined elections in 2014 for two thirds of the Senate, the Chamber of Deputies, municipal administrations and local councils. On 12 February a number of opposition parties abandoned the dialogue process, and on 15 February formalization of the agreement was postponed owing to delays by the executive branch in publishing the full list of council members of the Superior Court of Auditors and Administrative Disputes.

10. During the reporting period, the United Nations, together with other international and regional organizations, participated as observers in high-level discussions between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, which took place on 7 January 2014 in Ouanaminthe (North-East Department of Haiti) and on 3 February in Jimani (Dominican Republic). The discussions focused on a number of bilateral issues, including border management, migration policy, trade and environmental protection in the aftermath of the ruling on nationality by the Dominican Constitutional Court on 23 September 2013.

Security assessment

11. The overall security situation during the reporting period remained relatively stable. Crime statistics collected by the national police and MINUSTAH showed a marginal downward trend in major crimes compared with the reporting period of the previous year. The total number of homicides in 2013 (817 reported cases) was 21 per cent lower than in 2012, reversing a five-year trend. Violence and gang activity continued to be concentrated in major urban centres, with approximately 77 per cent of homicides in 2013 taking place in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince. Equally important, the total number of kidnappings in 2013 decreased by 53 per cent compared with 2012. The average monthly number of reported rapes showed a slight increase to 33.8, compared with 30.5 during the previous reporting period.

12. The first half of the reporting period, marked by political tensions linked to the impasse on the electoral law, saw a 57 per cent increase in demonstrations. The majority of those, however, were triggered by socioeconomic grievances concerning inadequacies in basic services such as education, infrastructure, electricity and water supply. Most were peaceful even though they were characterized by frequent use of road barricades. By far the area most affected by civil unrest was the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince, followed by the urban areas of the North, North-East and Artibonite Departments.

13. The performance of the national police continued to improve and the security situation in the five Departments vacated by the Mission's military component (Grand-Anse, Nippes, North-West, South and South-East) remained stable. Nevertheless, when the capacity of the national police was put to severe test, both by local criminal activity and heightened civil unrest, operational support by MINUSTAH forces was required.

14. In September 2013, 11 Haitian officers and 30 technicians graduated from a seven-month military engineering training course overseas. In October, a statement by the Ministry of Defense indicated that the cohort represented the start of a new corps of military engineers, as envisaged in an action plan for the restoration of a defence force developed by the Ministry for the period 2013-2016. In January 2014,

a new group of 28 technicians started their military training overseas. After their graduation, they are expected to join the ranks of the new corps of military engineers.

III. Humanitarian, recovery and economic update

15. Haiti has made progress on the humanitarian front. As at the end of 2013, 90 per cent of the population displaced by the earthquake of 2010 had left the camps, in great part as a result of the return and relocation programmes implemented by the Government, the United Nations and non-governmental partners. The overall incidence of cholera had been halved since its outbreak in late 2010 and severe food insecurity was reduced from 1.5 million affected people in early 2013 to 600,000 affected as at the end of the year.

16. Critical needs and acute vulnerabilities remain, however. According to the International Organization for Migration, as at 31 December 2013 an estimated 146,000 individuals (about 39,000 households) remain displaced in 271 sites and face protection issues and a lack of adequate access to basic services. Forced evictions driven by private landowners continued to occur from both camps for internally displaced persons and informal settlements, and were often characterized by acts of violence. The United Nations and partners continue to work with the Government to ensure that legal procedures are followed and durable solutions are provided. In 2013, less than 50 per cent of the humanitarian requirements were funded, limiting the availability of human and financial capacities needed to ensure basic services in key sectors.

17. Haiti still has the highest number of cholera cases in the world. According to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the cholera epidemic has caused the death of 8,562 people. A total of 698,304 people were infected from October 2010 to 31 January 2014. The Pan-American Health Organization forecast as many as 45,000 infections in 2014 if current infection levels maintained. While the number of suspected cases has been reduced significantly each year, from 352,033 cases in 2011 to 58,608 cases in 2013, which is also reflected in the reduction of cholera-related deaths, the institutional fatality rates (the number of suspected cholera victims who die in cholera treatment facilities) increased in 2013 to a yearly average of 1.07 per cent, up from 0.83 per cent in 2012. That reflects weaknesses in the capacity of health centres to provide timely and adequate health services to patients affected by cholera and the longer travel time required for treatment as a result of the closure of many cholera treatment centres.

18. While recognizing improvements in the food security situation, mainly resulting from the absence of hurricanes during the reporting period, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition among children under the age of 5 increased from 5.1 per cent in 2012 to 6.5 per cent in 2013, affecting approximately 100,000 children, of which 20,000 are affected by severe acute malnutrition. As a result of continuing critical needs and the challenges faced in completing the humanitarian transition process, four clusters covering shelter, health, protection and water and sanitation have been maintained.

19. In December 2013, the International Monetary Fund assessed the economic growth rate in Haiti for fiscal year 2012/13 at 4.3 per cent, above the 3.4 per cent estimate issued in June 2013. During 2013, the Haitian economy benefited from a more favourable global economic climate, a stable macroeconomic situation and

improved weather conditions, all of which were considered to have favoured the increase in economic activity. However, a series of existing constraints continue to hinder greater economic growth, including the unstable supply of electricity, poor infrastructure, high transportation costs and difficulties in accelerating the execution rate of public investment.

IV. Activities of MINUSTAH

Provision of support to State institutions

20. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH provided technical and logistical support for the launch of the Government's "Programme d'intervention nord et nord-est", which saw the training of 112 staff from 16 municipal administrations of the North and North-East Departments. This pilot programme of the Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Communities is supported by external partners to build the capacity of selected municipalities in the delivery of basic services.

21. In December 2013, MINUSTAH provided technical support for a three-day symposium organized by the Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Communities that coached 5 departmental delegates and 38 vice-delegates on strategies to enhance the delivery of government services at the local level. From November to December, MINUSTAH, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other partners supported the departmental forums on risk and disaster management organized by the Department of Civil Protection in the North, South and Artibonite Departments.

22. MINUSTAH continued to provide technical support to Parliament. With donor support, the Mission worked with several partners, such as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and UNDP, to establish an office for gender equity in Parliament aimed at promoting the adoption of gender-sensitive legislation. Both houses of Parliament adopted the law against money-laundering and terrorist financing for which the Mission had been advocating. The law will help bring regulations in Haiti in line with international standards on financial compliance.

23. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Bar Association of Port-au-Prince, MINUSTAH supported operations in four legal aid offices that processed more than 2,000 cases during the reporting period. In an effort to raise the awareness of parliamentarians on the issue of prolonged pretrial detention, the Mission facilitated visits for parliamentarians to the national penitentiary and the women's prison of Pétion-Ville. UNDP is also providing support to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security on issues related to pretrial detention and dossier management.

24. MINUSTAH provided technical expertise on the establishment of the interministerial Technical Border Commission. The body has a three-year mandate, starting in November 2013, to secure the country's border crossing points, improve revenue collection and curb the smuggling of illicit goods and trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. The Mission also continued to advise the Ministry of Economy and Finance on the implementation of a strategic plan to rehabilitate the Customs Surveillance Directorate.

Support to the political process

25. My Special Representative for Haiti, Sandra Honoré, engaged intensively with political decision-makers to advocate for the continuity of democratic institutions, national dialogue, a consensual legislative agenda, the adoption of key legislation and progress towards the holding of the elections. My Special Representative also cooperated closely with the country's international partners, including the diplomatic corps in Port-au-Prince, to coordinate the international community's good offices efforts and to maintain momentum with regard to the Government's key priorities under its "5 E" policy programme (employment, education, environment, energy and rule of law).

Support for the forthcoming elections

26. MINUSTAH and UNDP provided technical advice throughout the legislative process leading to the adoption and promulgation of the electoral law and continued to support the work of the Electoral Council. A final consensus is required concerning the sequence of elections, which are overdue since 2010 for municipal and local offices and since 2011 for one third of the Senate. Elections for another third of the Senate as well as the renewal of the complete Chamber of Deputies are due by the end of 2014. That will ultimately define the support required from MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team. Furthermore, the Mission's consolidation will imply a more focused and strategic use of available assets in support of efforts by the national authorities. Meanwhile, the Mission has provided logistical assistance to the National Identification Office in registering new voters and distributing national identification cards using mobile registration teams throughout the country. MINUSTAH also increased its efforts to train a pool of police electoral officers as part of its handover of responsibilities to the Haitian authorities, in line with the Mission's progressive disengagement from operational support activities.

Military

27. During the reporting period, the military component of MINUSTAH continued to fulfil its primary mission of assisting the Government in ensuring a secure and stable environment, in addition to enabling the delivery of humanitarian assistance and preparing for disaster response. Several joint security operations were conducted in accordance with established procedures, whereby operations are led by the national police with support from MINUSTAH police and, when required, from the Mission's military component. Independent United Nations police and military patrolling continued to be carried out without Haitian National Police presence, an indication that further progress is required before the national police can deliver the same level of security currently provided by MINUSTAH. Cordon and search operations aimed at disrupting gang and criminal activity were conducted by the military component in the most sensitive regions of Haiti, particularly in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. The military component also executed deterrence and support operations, employing quick reaction forces, in remote and isolated areas of the country.

28. In addition to providing engineering capacity to the Mission, MINUSTAH military engineering companies continued to support government priorities aimed at

the improvement of living conditions for communities, which included well drilling, water distribution and the rehabilitation of schools and orphanages.

Police

29. The period was marked by close collaboration between the MINUSTAH police component, the Superior Council of the National Police and the Haitian National Police hierarchy to support the implementation of the national police development plan for 2012-2016 through a joint implementation mechanism. Those efforts, combined with a reinforced co-location strategy of MINUSTAH police officers with the Haitian National Police, have resulted in a more robust implementation of the plan's key priorities. In December 2013, 1,058 cadets (including 111 women) graduated, in line with the requirement of 1,000 additional officers per year to reach the plan objective of 15,000 officers in service. A new cohort of more than 1,050 officers is anticipated to start a seven-month training programme by the end of March 2014.

30. The Haitian National Police are increasingly proactive and visible, including in formerly violence-prone neighbourhoods. Crime prevention and crime fighting efforts led by the national police and supported by MINUSTAH in sensitive urban areas have resulted in a decrease in major crime indices in 2013, compared with 2012, and the dismantling of several criminal gangs. Moreover, the implementation of community-oriented policing strategies focused on crime prevention, with a particular focus on at-risk youth and women, has continued, particularly in Port-au-Prince (West Department), Les Cayes (South Department), Gonaïves (Artibonite Department) and Jacmel (South-East Department).

31. In September 2013, a new Inspector General of the Haitian National Police was appointed. Since then, the Inspectorate has begun the implementation of its strategic plan, which aims to strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the oversight body by overcoming challenges such as insufficient personnel, inadequate financial resources and equipment and limited specialized training. The Inspectorate established a 24-hour telephone service enabling citizens to report cases of police misconduct such as arbitrary arrests and the excessive use of force. It also re-launched inspections and audits of units and services throughout the country.

Protection of vulnerable groups

32. The MINUSTAH military and police components maintained their presence in camps for internally displaced persons and in fragile, crime-prone urban communities where women and children are vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. Of the remaining 271 sites for internally displaced persons, 24 high-risk camps were patrolled on a daily basis. The remaining sites were subject to random patrols. During the reporting period, the military and police components conducted 9,135 patrols in camps for internally displaced persons in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. Consistency in approach between the Mission and the United Nations country team was assured through coordination within the protection cluster.

Community violence reduction

33. MINUSTAH continued to conduct stabilization initiatives in fragile urban neighbourhoods that addressed high youth unemployment, poor infrastructure, weak security institutions and limited access to justice. The Mission tackled those issues

by supporting labour-intensive infrastructure and environmental projects, vocational training, income-generating activities, legal aid offices and safe housing solutions, which offer socioeconomic alternatives to former gang members, at-risk youth, women and vulnerable groups. The labour-intensive projects focused on watershed management, public infrastructure and canal rehabilitation, providing temporary employment to an estimated 15,000 persons considered to be at risk. Furthermore, more than 65 sensitization activities aimed at diffusing social tensions and fostering social dialogue were carried out in historically violent areas by partners that included the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Environment, the Prison Administration, the Haitian National Police, municipalities, local authorities and numerous community-based organizations. The Mission completed 42 of 48 projects planned for the 2012/13 fiscal year and initiated 29 projects for the 2013/14 fiscal year.

Justice

34. MINUSTAH supported the Superior Council of the Judiciary in the preparation of its first workplan and the drafting of its internal and financial procedures. During the past year, the Superior Council has made progress in enhancing the independence of the judiciary despite the controversial arrest and release in October 2013 of opposition lawyer André Michel, as well as the continued detention of individuals who are plaintiffs in cases alleging corruption in government circles. The Council's prerogative to certify the appointment of all judges is designed to curb those incidents of political interference. The institution has ensured that the recruitment of judges takes place primarily among graduates of the School of Magistrates, which MINUSTAH and several donors have been supporting through the training of 40 new magistrates, to be completed by mid-2014. While the Superior Council continues to experience difficulties in its deliberations, those steps are indicative of progress in strengthening the Council's institutional structure.

35. With technical and financial support from MINUSTAH and UNDP, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security continued the implementation of its action plan for 2013-2016. The Ministry's emphasis has been on infrastructure, while MINUSTAH provided technical assistance for the Ministry's efforts to establish its office on pretrial detention and improve the management of prison sentences. The Ministry has been working on the development of a national criminal justice policy to define the vision, priorities and strategies of the State in fighting crime and to determine the means and resources for the prosecution of criminal offences. MINUSTAH continued to provide technical assistance for the reopening of the Forensic Medical Institute. Specific funding for the Institute was proposed in the draft national budget for fiscal year 2013/14 and the Institute's director has been appointed by the Government.

Corrections

36. MINUSTAH provided technical and logistical support to the Prisons Administration Directorate by coordinating specialized training for junior and senior corrections officers and prison medical staff. MINUSTAH also contributed to the reduction of prolonged and illegal detention cases by assisting prison administrators in facilitating access to justice by referring cases to judicial authorities. Those efforts have resulted in the release of 215 detainees since September 2013. MINUSTAH initiated and facilitated a formal partnership between prisons and the

Ministry of Public Health and Population aimed at improving prisoner health and welfare and, in particular, mental health care services. During the reporting period, those programmes were successfully implemented in seven prisons in Jérémie (Grand-Anse Department), Jacmel (South-East Department), Anse-à-Veau (Nippes Department), Port-de-Paix (North-West Department), Saint-Marc (Artibonite Department), Fort-Liberté (North-East Department) and Les Cayes (South Department).

Human rights

37. Capacity-building in Haiti, together with monitoring and reporting on human rights, continued. One of the most notable achievements was the international accreditation on 4 December 2013 of the Haitian Office of the Ombudsperson as a National Human Rights Institution by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Moreover, the interministerial commission on human rights became operational during the reporting period.

38. Haiti's signature of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on 16 August 2013 and its adherence to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 10 October were positive developments for which the Mission had been advocating. On 16 December, Haiti deposited the ratification instrument of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption. In November, Haiti submitted the periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, due since 2007. In addition, the initial draft report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been submitted to the interministerial commission on human rights. Another positive initiative taken by the Government was the compilation of a midterm report on the implementation of the recommendations accepted by Haiti following the universal periodic review of October 2011.

39. On 20 February 2014, the Port-au-Prince Court of Appeal issued a decision rejecting a lower court's ruling and ordering additional investigations into charges of crimes against humanity and financial crimes brought against former President Jean-Claude Duvalier.

40. Notwithstanding this progress, systemic deficiencies in human rights protection remain. They include reports of excessive use of force by the national police, the slow response by the Inspectorate General of the Haitian National Police in investigating those allegations and prolonged pretrial detention in cruel and inhuman conditions.

Gender

41. The Mission released a study in August 2013 on the response of the police and the judiciary to cases of rape. The study identified weaknesses in the courts, prosecution offices and police stations in their handling of cases, and showed that the vast majority of reported rapes are never properly adjudicated. To address the situation, MINUSTAH and UNDP supported training activities for magistrates, judicial police and police officers that included a five-day training of 283 police officers (including 31 women) on fighting and preventing sexual and gender-based violence. During the reporting period, five new offices for the management and

investigation of sexual violence cases were opened within police stations. The Haitian National Police, with the support of MINUSTAH, provided support to victims of sexual violence, including transportation to medical centres, relocation services, locating support for psychological assistance and judicial follow-up. In November, a joint national office of the Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights and the Haitian National Police was inaugurated by President Martelly.

42. MINUSTAH supported advocacy efforts to promote the integration into the new electoral law of the constitutional 30 per cent minimum representation of women in public life, including through a Mission-funded national workshop held in September 2013. The electoral law includes articles on the representation of women in the electoral apparatus and in municipal and local councils. Similar to the recently promulgated law on the formation, functioning and financing of political parties, the electoral law includes financial incentives for political parties concerning the representation of women.

Child protection

43. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH received reports of 206 incidents against minors, including cases related to sexual violence (127 cases of rape and other sexual violence and 14 cases of child prostitution); 17 cases of homicide; 9 cases of physical assault and injury; 5 cases of the use of children by armed gangs; 1 case of abduction; 5 cases of child trafficking; and 28 cases of mistreatment. The reports were shared weekly with the national police and the Brigade for the Protection of Minors for follow-up. With regard to juvenile justice, MINUSTAH continued to monitor the situation of children in pretrial detention in the main detention facilities. Advocacy with the judges of the juvenile courts led to the release of six children.

HIV/AIDS

44. MINUSTAH and United Nations agencies, including UNDP through the work of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, continued supporting the national AIDS programme in its priority areas: reducing sexual transmission, eliminating mother-to-child transmission, eliminating stigma and discrimination, providing social protection to people living with HIV and eliminating sexual-based violence. During the reporting period, the guidelines for antiretroviral treatment were revised. Last December, on World AIDS Day, a workshop was held to discuss the draft law on HIV to be introduced in Parliament in early 2014.

Quick-impact projects

45. During the reporting period, a total of six quick-impact projects were completed. An additional 26 projects were under implementation, 26 were approved and 30 new projects were under examination. The projects included: measures to contain the cholera epidemic and prevent water-borne diseases (25 projects), the enhancement of safety and security in impoverished and insecure areas through the installation of public solar lighting (3 projects), support to rule of law institutions and good governance (25 projects) and rehabilitation of other public infrastructure and buildings (30 projects). The remaining five projects focused on the promotion of gender equality and vocational training.

Conduct and discipline

46. The Conduct and Discipline Unit continued to implement the integrated strategy to prevent misconduct through training sessions for 578 MINUSTAH personnel. Specific training-of-trainers sessions on the prevention of misconduct, in particular sexual exploitation and abuse, were also delivered to military and police commanders and focal points. The Mission leadership consistently delivered strong messages to all staff members to maintain the highest standards of conduct at all times, both inside and outside the Mission area.

Public information and outreach

47. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH continued to use public information as a strategic outreach tool in support of the implementation of its mandate and its conditions-based consolidation plan. Key information activities included international and national media relations, regular press conferences and releases and communication products such as the Mission's radio, website, live streaming programmes, social media presence and publications and television productions. Significant efforts directly targeted youth living in vulnerable areas of Haiti with a nationwide awareness campaign entitled "Ann Chwazi Lapè" ("Let Us Choose Peace"). The campaign focuses on citizen participation, non-violence and human rights, including ways to promote participation of women and persons living with disability in public life and decision-making processes. In parallel to those outreach activities, MINUSTAH launched a monthly television debate series with participants from government institutions, civil society and the United Nations, tackling themes such as human rights and prolonged pretrial detention.

V. Humanitarian, recovery and development activities

Coordination between the Mission and the United Nations country team

48. The United Nations country team continued to implement joint programmes in alignment with the Government-endorsed United Nations integrated strategic framework. As at 31 December 2013, the overall disbursement rate of United Nations projects funded by the Haiti Reconstruction Fund was 86 per cent.

49. In order to move forward on the implementation of the framework for coordination of external aid, a high-level technical group has been established that includes the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and members of the Group of 12 donors in Haiti. Also with the support of MINUSTAH, the Government held its first-ever national forum on non-governmental organizations on 8 October 2013. The forum brought together the Government, more than 250 organizations and members of the international community to discuss draft legislation regulating non-governmental organizations in the country and their role in national coordination structures and emergency response. The draft legislation in its current form, while aiming to promote greater alignment of aid-funded activities to national priorities, would have significant implications regarding the presence of international non-governmental organizations, which would be subject to taxation and more rigid regulations.

50. As part of the Political Champions for Disaster Resilience initiative, Haiti participated in a meeting in New York on 25 September 2013. The Government, with the support of the Political Champions, identified three Departments (North, North-East and Grand-Anse) to initiate resilience-building efforts. Significant strides were also made in the establishment of a disaster risk reduction thematic table, which has been given priority in the national framework for the coordination of external aid.

51. The humanitarian action plan for 2014 identifies a need for $169 million. The action plan is intended to seek solutions and provide basic services for the remaining internally displaced persons living in camps and to address critical needs related to the cholera epidemic, food insecurity, nutrition, protection and disaster preparedness. So far, only $6 million of the necessary funds have been received.

United Nations ongoing efforts to eliminate the cholera epidemic

52. The United Nations system in Haiti has developed a two-year, $68 million plan as a direct support to the 10-year National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera in Haiti that aims to reduce infection rates by cutting cholera transmission to less than 0.5 per cent. The two-year plan focuses on four priority areas: epidemiological surveillance; health promotion; medical treatment; and water, hygiene and sanitation. The plan is intended to serve as a short-term effort to curb the disease while structural and institutional responses are built through the national plan. Delivering and sustaining better health to the women, men and children of Haiti requires an urgent, scaled-up effort to combat cholera and address decades of underinvestment in basic systems for safe water, sanitation and health care.

53. Both direct and indirect cholera-mitigating activities were executed over the reporting period, including the construction of canals and dry walls to limit flooding and the risk of waterborne disease transmission in vulnerable communities. The United Nations also trained health staff and built cholera treatment centres in at-risk locations in partnership with national authorities, including the Ministry of Public Health and Population.

VI. Update on drawdown and reconfiguration of the Mission

54. In accordance with Security Council resolution 2119 (2013), the military component continued the reduction of its personnel during the reporting period and is on target to achieve the mandated strength of 5,021 troops through a balanced withdrawal of 1,249 infantry and engineering personnel by the end of June 2014. This 15 per cent reduction in the Mission's uniform strength coincides with the planned troop rotation schedules. On 1 July 2014, the military component will consist of 21 infantry and 3 engineering companies, aviation capability and a level II hospital, and will no longer possess a maritime capability. During the reporting period, the military component redeployed a platoon from Saint-Marc to Gonaïves (Artibonite Department) and two platoons from Jacmel and Anse-à-Pitres (South-East Department) to the West Department.

55. MINUSTAH has continued working with the Government of Haiti to advance progress towards the four jointly agreed stabilization benchmarks outlined in the Mission's conditions-based consolidation plan. An update on achievements and challenges is attached to the present report (see annex I).

56. Also in accordance with Security Council resolution 2119 (2013), an integrated planning process on the post-2016 United Nations configuration in Haiti was launched, involving key national and international stakeholders, including the United Nations country team. The process will inform a future Council decision on the most appropriate United Nations configuration able to assist Haiti following the completion of the four-year consolidation process in 2016.

57. An early review of MINUSTAH and United Nations country team activities has identified the political and peacekeeping functions that are likely to remain relevant beyond 2016, including continued support for the development of the Haitian National Police, consolidation of political stabilization gains through good offices, continued strengthening of the rule of law through security sector and legislative reforms and the promotion and protection of human rights. Five broad possible configurations for their delivery are presented below.

58. The first option would entail ending the United Nations peacekeeping mandate and designating a United Nations Special Envoy for Haiti to deliver political good offices with the capacity to support a Haitian-led political process. This option entails the complete withdrawal of the military and police components and closure of all regional facilities. The Haitian National Police would have to possess the capacity to address country-wide security needs, while its continued development would have to rely on bilateral and United Nations country team support.

59. The second option foresees the end of the peacekeeping mandate and the establishment of a special political mission with a Haitian National Police development capability. The special political mission would focus on political facilitation and promotion and oversight of rule of law and human rights activities and provide continued support to police development through a minimal presence of international police officers in select locations across the country. It would entail a complete withdrawal of the military component and formed police units and the closure of all regional facilities. Also under the option, the Haitian National Police would have to possess the capacity to address country-wide security needs. Integration mechanisms with the United Nations country team would continue to provide coordinated responses to the priorities of the Government of Haiti.

60. The third option envisages ending the mandate of MINUSTAH in order to establish a new peacekeeping mission with a primarily political role and a much-reduced footprint. The smaller mission's mandate would focus fully on political facilitation, the development of the Haitian National Police, assistance with and oversight of rule-of-law activities and the promotion and protection of human rights and operational support in maintaining a stable environment. There would be a complete withdrawal of the military component, including enablers, with a continued and possibly increased country-wide presence of formed police units able to complement possible operational security shortfalls. A reduced complement of individual police officers would focus exclusively on training. Civilian regional facilities would be limited to three or four critical urban settings, while all other United Nations activities would be performed by the United Nations country team.

61. Under the fourth option, the mandate of MINUSTAH would similarly end and a new peacekeeping operation would be established under the same terms as the third option, but with the addition of a military strategic reserve force of one composite battalion for an initial period of one year. The strategic reserve force would be fully relieved of the conduct of routine security operations and garrisoned

in a single location with adequate airlift capability to transport one company throughout the country.

62. The fifth option foresees the Mission's current peacekeeping mandate adjusted to reflect the reduced scope of activities achieved through the completion of the consolidation plan. The military component would continue to progressively draw down while police deployment would initially remain unchanged. A significantly reduced civilian presence would operate in four or five of the most populated urban settings. Structural integration with the United Nations country team would continue to provide coordinated responses to the priorities of the Government of Haiti.

VII. Financial implications

63. By its resolution 67/275, the General Assembly appropriated the amount of $609,187,500 for the maintenance of MINUSTAH for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 has been submitted to the Assembly for its consideration at the second part of the resumed sixty-eighth session. As at 19 February 2014, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for MINUSTAH amounted to $145.5 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to $2,019.3 million, while amounts owed to troop and formed police contributors to MINUSTAH totalled $18.5 million. Reimbursement of troop and contingent-owned equipment costs have been made for the periods up to 31 October 2013 and 30 September 2013, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

VIII. Observations

64. The reporting period initially saw an increase in civil unrest and demonstrations, many of which were attributable to socioeconomic grievances and a growing sense of impatience with regard to the continued delays in holding elections. Lingering tensions between the branches of Government added to the unrest.

65. The adoption by Parliament of the electoral law and its promulgation in December 2013 by the executive branch helped to significantly defuse tensions. Moreover, the launch on 24 January 2014 of an inter-Haitian dialogue process between the executive branch, Parliament and political parties was seen as a key step towards addressing persistent animosities over the delayed elections, a perceived weakening of democratic governance and divergent views on the need to further amend the Constitution. Those are encouraging signs, made possible by a series of concessions by the negotiating sides in an attempt to find consensual solutions to the country's recurrent political crises. I commend Haiti's political leaders for embarking on this positive political path and encourage stakeholders to nurture this process aimed at reaching a basic political accord and creating an environment conducive to socioeconomic development.

66. The holding of elections in 2014 is critical for the continuity of the country's democratic institutions. I therefore urge the authorities to spare no effort in ensuring a level playing field for the holding of transparent and inclusive elections as soon as

possible. While an incipient consensus on the type and sequence of the elections in 2014 is starting to emerge, a number of concrete steps are required from both the executive and legislative branches in preparing for the elections. In keeping with its pledge, the Government's contribution to the electoral budget is commendable. As before, the United Nations stands ready to provide the requested support to the electoral process.

67. While I welcome the accomplishments in key priority areas of the consolidation plan, such as the professionalization of the Haitian National Police, slow progress in other equally important areas risks jeopardizing some of the important achievements made to date. In particular, progress in the field of justice and accountability has lagged behind the development of the national police, creating an imbalance in the delivery of the rule of law. I am also concerned that the lack of political consensus is impeding the ability of national institutions to eventually assume full responsibility over the electoral process. In view of the consolidation of MINUSTAH, it has become imperative for the national authorities to assume greater responsibility in establishing the rule of law and in preparations for the next elections.

68. Despite those challenges, considerable progress has been made in the stabilization of Haiti since the Mission's initial deployment in 2004. I am therefore confident that Haiti and its partners can firmly move ahead with the ongoing consolidation process, mindful of the security requirements for the Presidential elections scheduled for November 2015, while at the same time explore the best way to continue contributing to greater stability and development beyond 2016. The future United Nations presence in Haiti should ensure, through a more tailored mandate and a lighter footprint, the consolidation of gains in security and capacity-building achieved since the deployment of MINUSTAH while still being able to complement possible operational shortfalls in security. If the current level of progress is sustained, the need to invoke Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in a future mandate could be revisited.

69. A full scale, United Nations-wide strategic assessment will be carried out to provide an updated, in-depth assessment of conditions on the ground as they relate to the five possible configurations I have presented in the present report in broad terms. The findings of the strategic assessment will be reflected in a subsequent report to the Security Council, which will also include my recommendations regarding the most appropriate option for Haiti at that juncture. In the period leading up to the Council's decision, MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team will continue to work closely with the Haitian authorities to intensify ongoing efforts for the handover of the Mission's functions to the Government. Should conditions on the ground allow, an accelerated transition to a new United Nations configuration in Haiti could be considered.

70. It is critically important for Haiti and the international community to redouble current efforts to continue improving the humanitarian situation, in particular with regard to the ongoing cholera epidemic. In that regard, in late August 2013 I appointed a Senior Coordinator for Cholera Response in Haiti with the objective of ensuring effective support to the national cholera response strategy. I also initiated the establishment within MINUSTAH of an Integrated Solutions Support Unit to assist in the coordination of all United Nations cholera-related activities. In order to build upon the progress made in 2013, I call upon Member States and partners to

provide the urgently required funds for the Organization's two-year plan in direct support of the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera in Haiti.

71. In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my Special Representative, Sandra Honoré, for her service in support of Haiti at a time when the Mission is undergoing its reconfiguration. I would also like to thank the women and men of MINUSTAH, troop- and police-contributing countries and the United Nations country team and their partners for their continued dedication and commitment to stability and development in Haiti.

Annex I

Progress in the consolidation of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

In my report to the Security Council of 8 March 2013 (S/2013/139), I outlined the conditions-based consolidation plan of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), which identifies four stabilization benchmarks that constitute the framework of the operationalization of the Mission's consolidation. The present annex provides an update on progress made during the reporting period towards the achievement of those four stabilization benchmarks.

Key achievements

Police development

MINUSTAH focused its support to augment Haitian National Police capacity, in line with the country's police development plan for 2012-2016. Achievements on the key benchmarks of the consolidation plan on police development are set out below.

- In December 2013, 1,058 cadets (including 111 women) graduated from training, which is in line with the requirement of 1,000 additional officers per year to reach the development plan objective of 15,000 officers in service. A new cohort of more than 1,050 officers is anticipated to start a seven-month training programme in March 2014.
- In accordance with the consolidation plan, the national police school is operating at full capacity with 98 national instructors. With regard to the senior management capacities of the national police, 41 Commissaires graduated in October 2013 from the national police school. Furthermore, a new cohort of 38 Commissaires began their six-month training programme in November 2013.
- At the time of reporting, the strength of the Haitian National Police assigned to the regions beyond the greater metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince stood at 32.5 per cent, close to the one third target. Half of the complement of police officers in the regions received crowd control training during the reporting period.
- In order to improve the ability of the police force to effectively manage itself, the revision of procedures for standing offers, allocations and supply chain has been under way since October 2013. During the reporting period, 87 police facilities were constructed or renovated and the vehicle fleet received 194 new vehicles and motorcycles. The procedures for asset and equipment maintenance were also improved.
- A total of 4,291 officers (38.2 per cent of the national police force) are assigned to specialized units, including corrections, community-oriented policing, crowd control, criminal investigations, traffic, response to sexual and gender-based violence, human rights, the coast guard and border management.

- During the past two years the Government of Haiti has increased the proportion of the national budget allocated to the national police. For fiscal year 2013/14, the forecasted budget of the Haitian National Police is $153.9 million. The Chamber of Deputies has approved an amount of $157.5 million and a final allocation is pending adoption of the budget by the Senate.

Electoral capacity-building

The Mission's objective is to create conditions that will allow the Government of Haiti to assume full responsibility for the electoral process following the next presidential elections, scheduled for 2015.

- Because elections were not held in 2011, 2012 and 2013, constitutional deadlines were not respected.
- Although a Permanent Electoral Council was not established, a transitional Electoral Council was formed on 19 April 2013 and an Executive Director was nominated on 13 January 2014.
- The Government of Haiti has pledged approximately one third of the provisional electoral budget. In the light of the provisions of the 2013 electoral law and the sequence and type of elections to be held in 2014, the planned budget may need to be revised.
- With regard to the capabilities of Haitian authorities to progressively assume full responsibility for electoral logistics and security, discussions between MINUSTAH and the Electoral Council on the matter are at an early stage owing to the fact that a formal agreement has not yet been reached on the sequence and timing of elections in 2014.

Rule of law and human rights

MINUSTAH is focusing its activities on supporting the work of the Government to strengthen rule of law accountability and oversight mechanisms and to advance crucial legislative reform.

- While the rules of internal procedures of the Superior Council of the Judiciary have been drafted, they have not yet been adopted by the members of the Council.
- With regard to the establishment of the Judicial Inspectorate of the Superior Council of the Judiciary and other administrative structures of its secretariat, the recruitment process for a Director and judicial inspectors has begun.
- Gender considerations have been taken into account in the recruitment of new student magistrates currently being trained at the School of Magistrates, resulting in a student body that is 37 per cent women.
- No positive developments have been identified with regard to the capacity of the Superior Court of Auditors and Administrative Disputes to handle an increased caseload. At present, 7 of the 10 members proposed by the Senate have been confirmed by the President.
- The Office of the Ombudsperson is operational and adequately funded through the State budget and has representation throughout the entire territory.

- Drafts of the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been proposed to the Government. Regarding the Criminal Code, a competing draft has been prepared by the President's Commission on Legislative Reform. Neither version has yet been presented to Parliament for adoption.
- At the time of writing, the Anti-Corruption Unit has the ability to investigate cases. An anti-corruption law is pending adoption by the Parliament that would confer enforcement powers upon the Unit, which it currently lacks.
- The vetting process for the Haitian National Police is progressing and 4,992 police officers and civilian staff have been certified. An additional 3,201 cases are near to completion. Background checks for new officers are conducted jointly by the Inspectorate General and the MINUSTAH police component prior to their graduation from the national police school.
- In February 2014, the Inspectorate General published its first annual report since 2008, documenting 78 cases that were opened against police officers for various misconduct and human rights violations. So far, 14 of those officers have been dismissed from the police force, and appropriate sanctions have been applied in 14 other cases. Twenty-eight cases were considered unfounded.

Key governance issues

The Mission's objective is to promote dialogue on a minimum political consensus regarding elections and the legislative agenda and to support the strengthening of State institutions at the central and local level.

- National political stakeholders engaged in a mediated dialogue process focused on democratic governance, elections and constitutional amendments.
- Policy proposals outlining short-, medium- and long-term governance and human rights priorities by civil society organizations in six Departments (North-East, Artibonite, South-East, Grand-Anse, South and West) were finalized and presented to the Haitian authorities.

Annex II

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: countries providing military staff and contingents (as at 10 February 2014)

	Staff officers		*Troops*		
Country	*Females*	*Males*	*Females*	*Males*	*Total*
Argentina		11	40	521	572
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		3	12	193	208
Brazil		18	14	1 402[a]	1 434[b]
Canada	2	3		2	7
Chile		3	18	436	457
El Salvador		1		34	35
Ecuador		1	1	51	53
France		2			2
Guatemala		2	11	122	135
Honduras				1[c]	1
Indonesia		1		167	168
Jordan		10		241	251
Nepal		13		21	34
Paraguay		3	5	109	117
Peru		6	23	344	373
Philippines	1	1	11	146	159
Republic of Korea	1	1			2
Sri Lanka		11		850	861
United States of America	1	7			8
Uruguay		10	40	887	937
Total	**5**	**107**	**175**	**5 527**	**5 814**

[a] Including one Bolivian attached to the Brazilian contingent.
[b] The Force Commander is employed on a United Nations contract and hence is not reflected in the troop strength.
[c] Attached to the Chilean battalion.

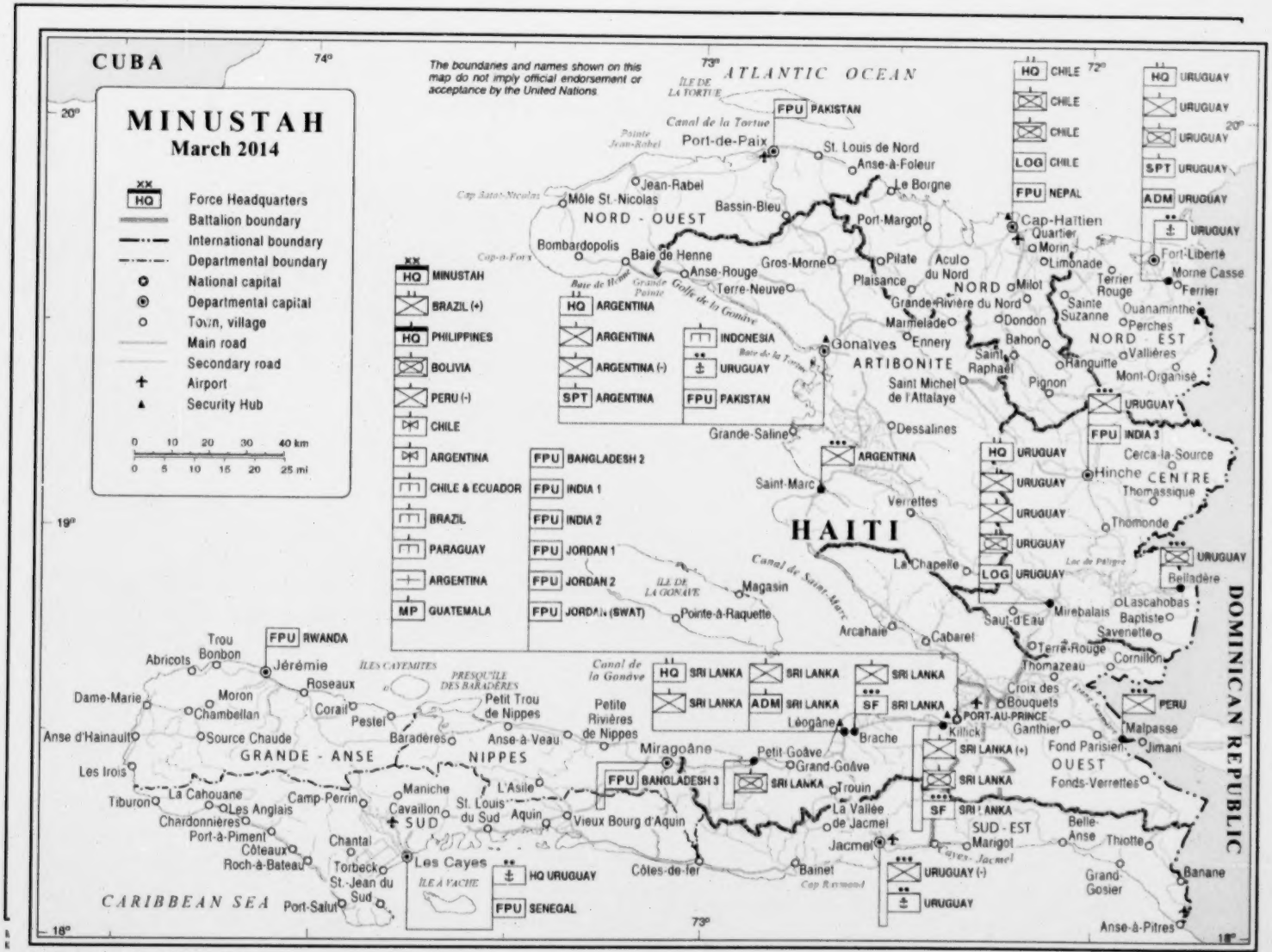
Annex III

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: composition and strength of the police (as at 11 February 2014)

Country	*Number of United Nations police*		*Number of formed police units*	
	Female	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*
Argentina	1	11	–	–
Bangladesh	–	5	104	212
Benin	1	40	–	–
Brazil	2	8	–	–
Burkina Faso	20	35	–	–
Burundi	8	35	–	–
Cameroon	5	29	–	–
Canada	10	71	–	–
Central African Republic	–	1	–	–
Chad	–	5	–	–
Chile	2	12	–	–
China	–	–	–	–
Colombia	1	26	–	–
Côte d'Ivoire	7	125	–	–
Croatia	–	5	–	–
Egypt	–	16	–	–
El Salvador	–	–	–	–
France	2	20	–	–
Grenada	–	2	–	–
Guinea	–	15	–	–
Guinea-Bissau	–	–	–	–
India	–	5	1	419
Indonesia	–	–	–	–
Italy	–	–	–	–
Jamaica	–	–	–	–
Jordan	–	11	–	278
Kyrgyzstan	–	1	–	–
Lithuania	–	1	–	–
Madagascar	–	–	–	–
Mali	2	35	–	–
Nepal	–	2	9	131
Niger	10	41	–	–
Nigeria	2	1	–	–
Norway	4	2	–	–

Country	Number of United Nations police		Number of formed police units	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Pakistan	–	–	–	139
Paraguay	–	1	–	–
Philippines	3	10	–	–
Portugal	–	1	–	–
Romania	3	20	–	–
Russian Federation	1	8	–	–
Rwanda	4	9	14	126
Senegal	1	5	11	129
Serbia	–	–	–	–
Sierra Leone	–	–	–	–
Spain	–	9	–	–
Sri Lanka	3	5	–	–
Sweden	–	–	–	–
Timor-Leste	–	–	–	–
Togo	–	–	–	–
Tunisia	1	13	–	–
Turkey	–	12	–	–
Thailand	3	4	–	–
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	–	1	–	–
United States of America	8	52	–	–
Uruguay	–	4	–	–
Vanuatu	–	2	–	–
Yemen	–	18	–	–
	104	734	139	1 434
Subtotal	**838**		**1 573**	
Total	**2 411**			

MINUSTAH map as at March 2014



Map No. 4224 Rev. 39 UNITED NATIONS
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Cartographic Section